

Title: RECORDING/REPRODUCING APPARATUS

#5 Ps 4-7-03

In re PATENT APPLICATION OF

GUNJI et al.

Appln. No.: 09/986,143

Filed: November 7, 2001

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Technology Center 2600

Group Art Unit: 2615

Examiner: UNKNOWN

January 7, 2003

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

I hereby certify that each enclosed document listed on the herewith Form PTO-1449 was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months ago by the attached European Communication (Search Report) copy dated December 12, 2002. See that communication for information on each document.

Note: The attached communication was not received by any individual designated in Section 1.56(c)more than 30 days prior to the filing of this IDS.

This IDS is intended to be in full compliance with the rules, but should the Examiner find any part of its required content to have been omitted, prompt notice to that effect is earnestly solicited, along with additional time under Rule 97(f), to enable Applicant to comply fully.

Contingent Request Under Rule 97(c): Should a first action on the merits have been issued on the same day or before this Information Disclosure Statement is filed, please accept this Information Disclosure Statement under Rule 97(c) and charge the requisite Rule 17(p) fee to our Deposit Account No. 03-3975 under Order No. 008312/0284091, and proceed to consider this IDS under Rule 97(d).

Consideration of the foregoing and enclosures plus the return of a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 with the Examiner's initials in the left column per MPEP 609 are earnestly solicited along with an early action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP, LLP

Dale S. Lazar

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